

# HOUSE BILL No. 1177

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 20-20-32.5.

**Synopsis:** RITE program grants. Provides that the education roundtable, with approval by the state board of education, shall develop the rewarding innovation, technology, and excellence (RITE) program to award grants to schools that have exhibited improvement toward benchmarks established by the state board of education. Provides that a school corporation that applies for a grant under the RITE program must demonstrate how the school corporation's: (1) innovation; (2) use of technology; or (3) other efforts to achieve excellence; have led to improvement in meeting the benchmarks. Specifies that grants under the RITE program must be made from the innovative school improvement fund. Provides that the amounts necessary to make grants under the RITE program are appropriated from the innovative school improvement fund. Provides that a school corporation receiving a grant under the RITE program must match the grant at a rate that is at least \$1 of local money for each \$1 granted to the school corporation. Limits to \$50,000 the total amount of all grants that may be made to a particular school corporation under the RITE program. Limits to \$1,000,000 the total amount of all grants that may be made to all school corporations under the RITE program for all state fiscal years.

**Effective:** July 1, 2014.

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## GiaQuinta, Heuer, Battles

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January 13, 2014, read first time and referred to Committee on Education.

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Second Regular Session 118th General Assembly (2014)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2013 Regular Session and 2013 First Regular Technical Session of the General Assembly.

## HOUSE BILL No. 1177

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A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education and to make an appropriation.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1       SECTION 1. IC 20-20-32.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
2       AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3       JULY 1, 2014]:

4       **Chapter 32.5. Rewarding Innovation, Technology, and**  
5       **Excellence (RITE) Program**

6       **Sec. 1.** As used in this chapter, "RITE program" refers to the  
7       rewarding innovation, technology, and excellence program  
8       established under section 2 of this chapter.

9       **Sec. 2.** The education roundtable established by IC 20-19-4-2,  
10      with approval by the state board, shall establish the rewarding  
11      innovation, technology, and excellence program. The education  
12      roundtable shall administer the RITE program. As requested by  
13      the education roundtable, the department shall assist the education  
14      roundtable in administering the RITE program.

15      **Sec. 3. (a)** The education roundtable, with approval by the state  
16      board, shall develop the RITE program to award grants to schools



1 that have exhibited improvement toward benchmarks established  
2 by the state board under section 4 of this chapter.

3 (b) The grants awarded under the RITE program shall be made  
4 from the innovative school improvement fund. The amounts  
5 necessary to make the grants under the RITE program are  
6 appropriated from the innovative school improvement fund.

7 Sec. 4. (a) The state board shall develop benchmarks to be used  
8 for purposes of awarding grants under the RITE program.

9 (b) A school corporation that applies for a grant under the  
10 RITE program must demonstrate how the school corporation's:

11 (1) innovation;

12 (2) use of technology; or

13 (3) other efforts to achieve excellence;

14 have led to improvement in meeting the benchmarks developed  
15 under subsection (a).

16 Sec. 5. (a) The education roundtable shall develop standards and  
17 guidelines for school corporations that wish to apply for a grant  
18 under the RITE program.

19 (b) The education roundtable shall determine which  
20 benchmarks are appropriate for a particular school corporation  
21 applying for a grant under the RITE program.

22 (c) A school corporation applying for a grant under the RITE  
23 program shall, for two (2) school years, certify to the education  
24 roundtable the information requested by the education roundtable  
25 to determine the school corporation's improvement in meeting the  
26 benchmarks developed under section 4(a) of this chapter.

27 Sec. 6. After reviewing an application submitted by a school  
28 corporation and the information submitted by the school  
29 corporation under section 5(c) of this chapter, the education  
30 roundtable may determine that the school corporation is entitled  
31 to a grant under the RITE program. If the education roundtable  
32 makes a determination to award a grant to a school corporation,  
33 the education roundtable shall determine the amount of the grant  
34 and the restrictions, if any, on the purposes for which the grant  
35 may be used.

36 Sec. 7. A school corporation receiving a grant under the RITE  
37 program must match the grant at a rate that is at least one dollar  
38 (\$1) of local money for each one dollar (\$1) granted to the school  
39 corporation. The local money used to match the grant may include  
40 money from the school corporation, a public school foundation, a  
41 community foundation, or any other private source.

42 Sec. 8. (a) The total amount of all grants that may be made to a



1 particular school corporation under the RITE program for all  
2 state fiscal years may not exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000).  
3 (b) The total amount of all grants that may be made to all school  
4 corporations under the RITE program for all state fiscal years may  
5 not exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000).

